

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03609 211720Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-10

MCT-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 /094 W

-----020119 211726Z /50

O R 211646Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8147

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3609

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, WA, AO

SUBJ: UNITA PUSHES SMALL MPLA FORCE INTO NAMIBIA

AND CAPTURES CUANGAR

REF: PRETORIA 3501

1. JULY 21, S.A. EVENING PRESS REPORTED THAT UNITA HAD CAPTURED THE TOWN OF CUANGAR NEAR THE NAMIBIAN BORDER JULY 20 AFTER AN INTENSIVE ROCKET AND MORTAR ATTACK. THE OFFENSIVE BY SOME 200 UNITA TROOPS REPORTEDLY DROVE SOME 400 MPLA SOLDIERS AND SUPPORTERS OVER THE ANGOLAN BORDER INTO NAMIBIA NEAR NKURENKURU THERE THEY WERE PUT UNDER GUARD BY THE S.A. ARMY. SOURCES IN THE AREA SAID
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THE UNITA TROOPS WENT ON A RAMPAGE AFTER TAKING THE TOWN, ATTACKING NEARBY KRAALS AND INDISCRIMINATELY KILLING CIVILIANS. THE AREA WAS REPORTED CALM ON THE 21ST.

2. THE REPORT SAID THE 100 SOLDIERS AMONG THE REFUGEES WERE IN PITIFUL CONDITION, MANY DID NOT HAVE UNIFORMS OR

WEAPONS, AND SOME HAD NO AMMUNITION. AMONG THE REFUGEES WERE THE MPLA'S MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERS IN CUANGAR.

3. THE REPORT SAID S.A. DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS IN PRETORIA CONFIRMED THAT S.A. SECURITY FORCES IN THE AREA HAD GIVEN REFUGE TO APPROXIMATELY 250 ANGOLAN REFUGEES, BUT THEY NEITHER IDENTIFIED THE REFUGEES NOT COMMENTED ON THE REASONS FOR THEIR FLIGHT.

4. THIS ATTACK FOLLOWS A LENGTHY UNITA CAMPAIGN TO REGAIN CONTROL OF CUANGAR, WHICH THEY LOST SOME SIX WEEKS AGO. THE ATTACK ON THE SOVIET PLANE JULY 12, WHICH ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES ASCRIBED TO SOUTH AFRICA (REFTEL), BUT WHICH UNITA TOOK CREDIT FOR, WAS PROBABLY A PART OF THAT CAMPAIGN. BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: |
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Film Number: D770259-1068
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PRETORIA 3501
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1790176
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNITA PUSHES SMALL MPLA FORCE INTO NAMIBIA AND CAPTURES CUANGAR
TAGS: PINT, PINS, MOPS, WA, AO, UNITA, MPLA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4addea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009